

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 08279 031912Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 AID-05 OMB-01 ACDA-12 /118 W  
-----010195 040429Z /11

R 031855Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8254  
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08279

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, PDIP, PEPR, AF, GW  
SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME IN AFGHANISTAN

REFS: (A) STATE 111645; (B) KABUL 3397 (NOTAL)

1. INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE ON THE  
AFTERMATH OF THE KABUL COUP IS STILL FRAGMENTARY.  
AMONG OTHER QUESTIONS IT HAS, THE FOREIGN OFFICE IS NOT  
SURE WHETHER TARAKI WILL BE A LASTING PHENOMENON OR IF  
HE IS ACTING AS A FIGUREHEAD, WITH THE LOCUS OF POWER  
REMAINING TO BE DISCOVERED. ACCORDING TO OUR CONTACTS,  
HOWEVER, ONE THING SEEMS CERTAIN AND THAT IS THAT THE  
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COUP REPRESENTS A STEP FORWARD FOR THE SOVIET UNION.

2. SINCE FRG PRACTICE IS TO RECOGNIZE STATES, NOT  
GOVERNMENTS, THE FOREIGN OFFICE DOES NOT PLAN TO ANSWER THE  
CIRCULAR NOTE OR TO MAKE ANY OTHER STATEMENT CONCERNING  
RECOGNITION. FRG RECOGNITION WILL CONSIST OF AND BE  
SIGNIFIED BY DOING BUSINESS AS USUAL WITH THE NEW

AFGHAN GOVERNMENT.

3. THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS ALSO RECEIVED MESSAGES FROM ITS EMBASSIES IN TEHRAN, ISLAMABAD AND NEW DELHI INDICATING THE HOST GOVERNMENTS' CONCERNS WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN KABUL. THE FRG EMBASSY IN NEW DELHI REPORTS THAT, DESPITE THE OUTWARD CALM IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES, THE COUP HAS SHAKEN THE GOI AS HAS NO OTHER EVENT IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

4. IT IS TOO SOON TO DETERMINE WHAT EFFECT THE COUP WILL HAVE ON GERMAN RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES ON AFGHANISTAN'S PERIPHERY. ONE LIKELY EFFECT, HOWEVER, WILL BE TO LESSEN DOMESTIC POLITICAL OPPOSITION TO FRG ARMS SALES TO IRAN. HERETOFORE, QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN RAISED AS TO WHY THE SHAH NEEDS A HEAVILY-ARMED ARMY AND NAVY. ACCORDING TO ONE FOREIGN OFFICE CONTACT, THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION SHOULD NOW BE OBVIOUS.

5. WHILE IN OFFICIALS REMAIN MORE CAUTIOUS IN THEIR EVALUATION OF THE COUP, A BONN/COLOGNE AREA PROFESSOR, WELL-VERSED IN SOVIET AFFAIRS AND KNOWN TO BE INFLUENTIAL IN GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION CIRCLES, HAS TOLD US HE CONSIDERS THE EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN TO BE MOST WORRISOME. IN HIS VIEW, THE COUP COULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE WITHOUT SOVIET  
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KNOWLEDGE AND ACQUIESCENCE. HE INTERPRETS THE SOVIET DECISION TO LET IT HAPPEN AS A SIGN OF SOVIET ADVENTURISM IN THEIR FOREIGN POLICY, SIGNIFYING A GREATER WILLINGNESS TO TAKE RISKS IN RELATIONS WITH THE WEST.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RECOGNITION, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, POLITICAL STABILITY, MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D780189-0950  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 may 2005  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2810106  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME IN AFGHANISTAN  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, PDIP, PEPR, AF, GE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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